

REMARKS

Applicants request entry of the amendment filed September 3, 2009, and then entry of the amendment presented above. Further examination is respectfully requested by virtue of the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the telephone conferences between Examiner Cordero and Applicants' undersigned attorney of record on April 1, 2010, such several discussions involving entry of the Amendment of September 3, 2009, and then the Examiner's attempts to come up with claim amendments which might place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants understand that, unfortunately, the Examiner's proposals were not considered by her supervisor(s) to be sufficient to overcome *prima facie* obviousness. Applicants maintain that the claims previously (and still) pending already define nonobvious subject matter.

However, Applicants have now added three new claims 10-12 which set forth Applicants' process in somewhat greater detail. These new claims are patentable for the same reasons as claims 2, 3 and 5-7, for reasons previously submitted, e.g. in the Reply filed September 3, 2009.

Applicants wish to emphasize for the record that the order of steps in Applicants' process is not shown or made obvious by any known prior art. Applicants also wish to emphasize for the record that one of the criteria for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness is that the prior art must have provided a reasonable expectation of the applicant's results, and in the present case it is clear that the prior art provided no reasonable expectation of the present Applicants' results.

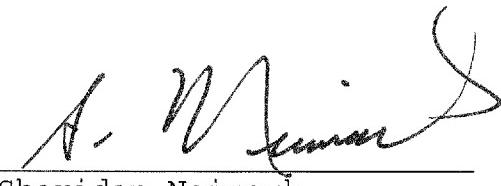
In re Appln of Rikiichi TAGAWA et al  
Appln. No. 10/552,369  
Preliminary Amd. dated April 2, 2010

Allowance of the present application is warranted, and  
is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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